

REMARKS

Receipt of the Office Action of March 23, 2007 is gratefully acknowledged.

The objection to the drawings is noted. In reply, a Replacement Sheet of the drawings is being submitted herewith with the necessary corrections made to Fig. 2

Page 7 of the originally filed application has been amended to recite "I claim."

The objection to claims 9 - 15 because "where the device specific data/information is transmitted" and "whether the field bus is used to transmit the device specific information...or some other type of communication link [is] to be used..." is not clear.

This objection is respectfully traversed.

The invention relates to a field bus distribution unit connected to field bus, which in turn is connected through a gateway to a data bus of a plurality of computers. The information gathered by the field bus distribution unit is conveyed to these computers under the control of the downstream circuitry. Claiming less than the arrangement shown in Fig. 1 is certainly permissible. It is not unlike a subcombination claim. Reconsideration of this objection is respectfully requested.

Claims 9 - 16 have been rejected over art. The art has been considered and claim 10 cancelled and the subject matter thereof inserted in claim 9 along with a further addition of the memory S shown in Fig. 2. Claim 9 as amended amounts to a new claim which is believed to patentably distinguish over the art now of record. The references do not teach a field bus distribution unit with a memory arranged as shown in Fig. 2.

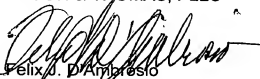
Regarding claim 14, it is noted that is is not rejected over art. Accordingly, claim 14 has been cancelled and rewritten in independent form as new claim 17.

Regarding claim 16, it is respectfully submitted that the references do not teach placing the chip-tag on the connecting cable of the field device. The examiner's commentary found on page 6 of the Office Action is noted. However, it is not clear where in Oba et al, for example, there is a teaching basis to conclude that the RFID tag is connected as is the chip-tag of claim 16.

In view of the foregoing, reconsideration and re-examination are respectfully requested and claims 9 - 13, and 15 - 17 indicated as being allowable.

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Respectfully submitted,
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